

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

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COAL STRIKE COMMISSION'S REPORT

The report of the anthracite coal strike commission is on the whole favorable to the miners and if acquiesced in by the operators, as it is presumed it will be, will improve conditions in the anthracite region and perhaps avert in future such conflicts as that of last year.

The commission finds in favor of an increase of wages and some reduction in time, deciding in these respects in favor of the contention of the miners. There is no doubt that in this the commission is entirely fair and just.

The commission recommends arbitration of any difficulty or disagreement arising under its award and suggests a plan for this that ought to be acceptable to both parties.

Another important recommendation is in regard to a sliding scale of wages, to be regulated by the price charged for coal in specified markets and determined by an accountant or commissioner named by one of the circuit judges of the Third judicial circuit of the United States.

The commission is said to take a decided position against compulsory arbitration and in this it is in accord with general public sentiment. It is a well established fact that the principle of compulsory arbitration has very little support in this country.

The Bowersock bill embraced in its scope all vacant public lands west of the 100th meridian to the Pacific coast. Leases of such lands were not to be subject to competitive bids, but a uniform rental of 2 cents per acre per annum was to be exacted from the lessees.

The effort of the emperor of Russia to induce the nations to curtail their expenditures for naval and military armaments has not only been unheeded, but there is being a steady increase in the building up of the sea power of the great nations and there is no promise of abatement in this direction in the near future.

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quires that there shall be no abatement of effort to keep its sea power up to a standard that will not only insure protection of the United Kingdom, but safety for all the vast outlying British empire.

This growth in naval armament seems likely to go on indefinitely, for it is quite impossible to foresee a lull in the competition and rivalry in this respect between the great powers of the world.

The Kansas legislature has voted \$125,000 to be expended in advertising the resources of the Sunflower state at the St. Louis fair, and some people cannot comprehend why Nebraska should not do likewise.

The great majority, if not two-thirds, of the attendance at the Louisiana Purchase exposition will be drawn from the region commercially tributary to St. Louis-Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Missouri.

Five projects for artificial irrigation have been approved by the Interior department and orders issued for the elaboration of plans and the preparation of everything required for actual operations.

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close the land embraced in his lease and shall be entitled to the exclusive use thereof for live stock grazing purposes; but the lands embraced in any lease shall, notwithstanding the lease, continue to be subject to settlement, entry and acquisition by qualified persons who in good faith go upon such lands for the purpose of making actual settlement and maintaining actual residence thereon, as is required by sections 2289, 2290, 2291, 2304, 2307 of the revised statutes of the United States.

The rentals of lands lease hereon, after deducting the expenses of administering the act, shall be annually disposed of, under the direction of the secretary of the interior, as follows: One-fourth shall be paid to the state of Nebraska, one-fourth shall be paid to the county in which the leased land lies, and one-half shall be credited to the treasury of the United States for the reclamation fund established under an act of congress entitled, "An act appropriating the receipts from the sale and disposal of public lands in certain states and territories to the construction of irrigation works for the reclamation of arid lands," approved June 17, 1902.

The purpose of this act is to provide for the economic use of public lands in the state of Nebraska which are adapted only to grazing purposes; to encourage the improvement, use and protection of the grass thereon and to determine whether a system of leasing public lands of this character may be justly and advantageously inaugurated and maintained.

Still we hesitate to take as fresh news the statement of the dressmakers that "figures are made, not born." Nature has never been guilty of making a "straight front."

When one reads of fierce battles over theological questions in the British Parliament, one utters a thanksgiving that there are some things, at least, which in our own congress, we are spared.

A summary of the life insurance companies in the United States prepared by The Spectator, shows assets on January 1 aggregating \$2,100,138,473—an increase for the year of \$157,778,158—and the surplus over all liabilities amounting to \$295,629,708.

It is not surprising to hear that complaints are reaching the authorities at Washington in regard to the proposed plans of irrigation work. This was to have been expected, because each locality naturally desires to receive first attention.

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the schools the board is not responsible but it owes it to the public to see to it that the schools are not used in any way to bolster up private ventures.

J. Pierpont Morgan expresses himself as decidedly dissatisfied with the tariff that imposes a duty of more than 50 per cent on foreign works of art which he has purchased. On the other hand, some other tariff schedules are doubtless collecting for him more money than the duties of his art collection would put into the national treasury.

One of the visiting delegates to the dressmakers' convention at Chicago declared that Chicago women have figures more symmetrical, graceful and beautiful than those possessed by the women of any other city in America.

Some people are inclined to place no more faith in the czar's proclamation than in a platform adopted by one of our national conventions.

The grant of increased liberty in Russia will check bomb throwing till the realization of still greater liberty arrives. Some people never get enough of anything.

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The Change of Seasons— from winter to spring are more marked than the great change of prices. If you are interested in new up to date house furnishings our change of policy to a one price basis should interest you. Our reduction of 10 to 40 per cent on every piece of furniture in our store should interest you still more.

BLASTS FROM RAM'S HORN. He who will not lift up the world will be dragged down with it. Preaching of itself will no more save than a prescription will cure.

SECULAR SHOTS AT THE PULPIT. Boston Transcript: Those who brought the charges against Bishop Moreland of playing tennis ought not to have forgotten that the great Joseph used to serve in the courts of Pharaoh.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE. Since the date of his coronation King Edward has ordered four barrels of Kentucky whiskey. Admiration for the king's business sagacity grows as the dimensions of the royal chest come into view.

IDEAL CONDITIONS RARELY EXPERIENCED by the Multitude. President Eliot of Harvard, who recently sounded the praises of hard work, has since had his opinions enthusiastically supported by Bishop Potter.

THE MARVELOUS NERVE AND SELF-POISE of young America was strikingly shown by a girl of 15, who tested in a recent murder case that she did not go to the room in which her father's body lay, but instead calmly watered the plants in the conservatory, ate her breakfast and performed other household duties unmoved and untroubled by the shadow of a crime.

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